

A wood cutting band saw blade includes a cutting edge and a back edge, wherein the cutting edge is defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other. The plurality of teeth include a plurality of set teeth each having a tip, each defining a bend plane, and each including a shelf located at least partially between the tip and the bend plane for reducing saw dust passing to the kerf and accumulating on the band saw blade. Each of the set teeth may define a relief surface and a cutting surface where the relief surface extends from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of the movement of the band saw blade and the cutting surface extends from another side of the tip. The shelf includes a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and may terminate in a shelf tip.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the preceding amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner indicates in the Action that the Amendment filed on November 27, 2002 was not fully responsive for the following three reasons:

1. The Examiner indicates that the drawing objection to Figure 2 has not been addressed. It is respectfully submitted that this objection was addressed at page 4 of the Response to Office Action filed November 20, 2003 (paper number 7). Specifically, at page 4 of that Response the Applicants indicated that the transverse axis represented by the vertical dotted line in Figure 2 is already labeled "T". Applicants also refer to the first two paragraphs of the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments section of the specification, in which tooth set angles are described with respect to transverse axis T. A copy of Figure 2 with the labeled line circled in red is attached hereto. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this ground for objection be withdrawn.

2. The Examiner has objected to the length of the Abstract as submitted.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended the Abstract to bring it within the length requirement cited by the Examiner, and provides a clean copy on a separate sheet as required.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's issuance of a non-final action and allowance of 30 days to correct this informality.

3. The Examiner indicates that the rejection of Claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has not been addressed. Applicant respectfully submits that, in the Response to Office Action filed November 20, 2002, claim 27 was amended to address the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.112. Specifically, as presented on page 6 of Applicants' Response, and as illustrated in the marked-up version on page 20 thereof, the objected to recitation "a tooth" was amended to read "each set tooth" in order to address the point raised by the Examiner. There is clear antecedent basis for this recitation and this recitation otherwise is believed to be fully compliant with § 112. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this ground for rejection has been fully addressed and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are allowable and an early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

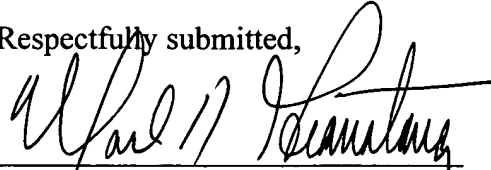
No additional fee is believed to be required in connection with this paper; however, if an additional fee is required, or otherwise if necessary to cover any deficiency in fees already paid, authorization is hereby given to charge our deposit account no. 50-1631.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the amended portions of the application are appended hereto in a version that indicates the amendments.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss any of the issues herein, or otherwise if it would facilitate the examination of this application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Date : March 14, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Giarratana", written over a horizontal line.

Mark D. Giarratana (Reg. No. 32,615)

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

A wood cutting band saw blade ~~that when cutting wood produces saw dust and forms a kerf. The band saw blade includes a cutting edge defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other and a back edge located on an opposite side of the band saw blade relative to the cutting edge~~ wherein the cutting edge is defined by a plurality of set teeth spaced relative to each other. The plurality of teeth include a plurality of set teeth each having a tip, each defining a bend plane, and each including a shelf located at least partially between the tip and the bend plane for reducing saw dust passing to the kerf and accumulating on the band saw blade. Each of the set teeth may define a relief surface and a cutting surface, where the relief surface extends from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of the movement of the band saw blade and the cutting surface extends from another side of the tip. The shelf includes a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and may terminate in a shelf tip.

